

North Dakota Department of Public Instruction

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Research – Resources – Report

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www.nd.gov/dpi/Administrators/FTP/Resources/News_Pubs/

Mission: To gather and share current research and resources with educators.

College Scorecard

President Obama announced the launch of a new College Scorecard, redesigned with input from students, families, and counselors to provide the clearest, most reliable national data on college cost, graduation, debt, and earnings. The scorecard seeks to empower Americans to rate colleges based on what matters most to them; to highlight colleges that are serving students of all backgrounds well; and to focus on making a quality, affordable education within reach (fact sheet, blog post, and select reports of high graduation, low cost, and high salary institutions).

To access information regarding colleges in North Dakota, log on to <https://collegescorecard.ed.gov/> and type North Dakota in the search box.

Combating Chronic Absenteeism

In their first event together post-announcement, Secretary Duncan and Senior Advisor King helped launch “Every Student, Every Day: A National Initiative to Address and Eliminate Chronic Absenteeism.” The initiative outlines steps to combat chronic absenteeism and calls on states and communities to take immediate action to address and eliminate chronic absenteeism by at least 10% each year, beginning in the current school year. The initiative targets the estimated 5-7.5 million students chronically absent each year. Defined as missing at least 10% of school days (approximately 18 days) over a school year, chronic absenteeism puts students at heightened risk of both falling behind and dropping out of school. In tackling the issue, states and communities ultimately boost student success and strengthen the nation’s workforce and future prosperity. <http://www2.ed.gov/about/inits/ed/chronicabsenteeism/index.html>.

For this initiative, the Administration released:

- a Dear Colleague letter to states, school districts, and communities on the need to reduce chronic absenteeism by at least 10% each year;
- a community toolkit offering information, suggested action steps, and lists of existing tools and resources – including evidence-based resources – for individuals, leaders, and systems to begin or enhance the work of coordinated community action to address and eliminate chronic absenteeism;
- a White House fact sheet that includes additional details on the initiative, including information on upcoming activities, events, and technical assistance;

A Matter of Science

Why is a firm understanding of scientific principles important in our lives? In an article by Karan Kaplan published in the *Los Angeles Times* on September 16, 2015, it was reported that American adults responding to a general science content survey earned an average failing score. The quiz consisted of 12 questions representing science knowledge that should have been obtained in school, and items gathered from the news.

To take the quiz yourself, you can visit the *Los Angeles Times* at www.latimes.com/science/sciencenow/la-sci-sn-science-quiz-americans-pew-20150909-story.html and follow the link to the quiz.

Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS): Offering Equitable Opportunities for ELLs to Engage in Science

In this article, a second and third grade ESL and Bilingual Resource Teacher provides an overview of ways in which the NGSS provide ELLs with more equitable science learning opportunities, as well as considerations for implementing the NGSS with ELLs.

www.colorincolorado.org/article/next-generation-science-standards-offering-equitable-opportunities-ells-engage-science.